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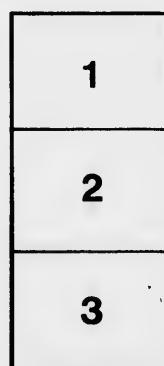
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... THE ...

# Song \* of \* Niagara

BY

'GARET NOEL'

Toronto

THE COPP, CLARK COMPANY, Limited, TORONTO

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CANADIAN : SERIES : OF : BOOKLETS

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Aug 26 '96

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With the Compliments of the Season

From

To





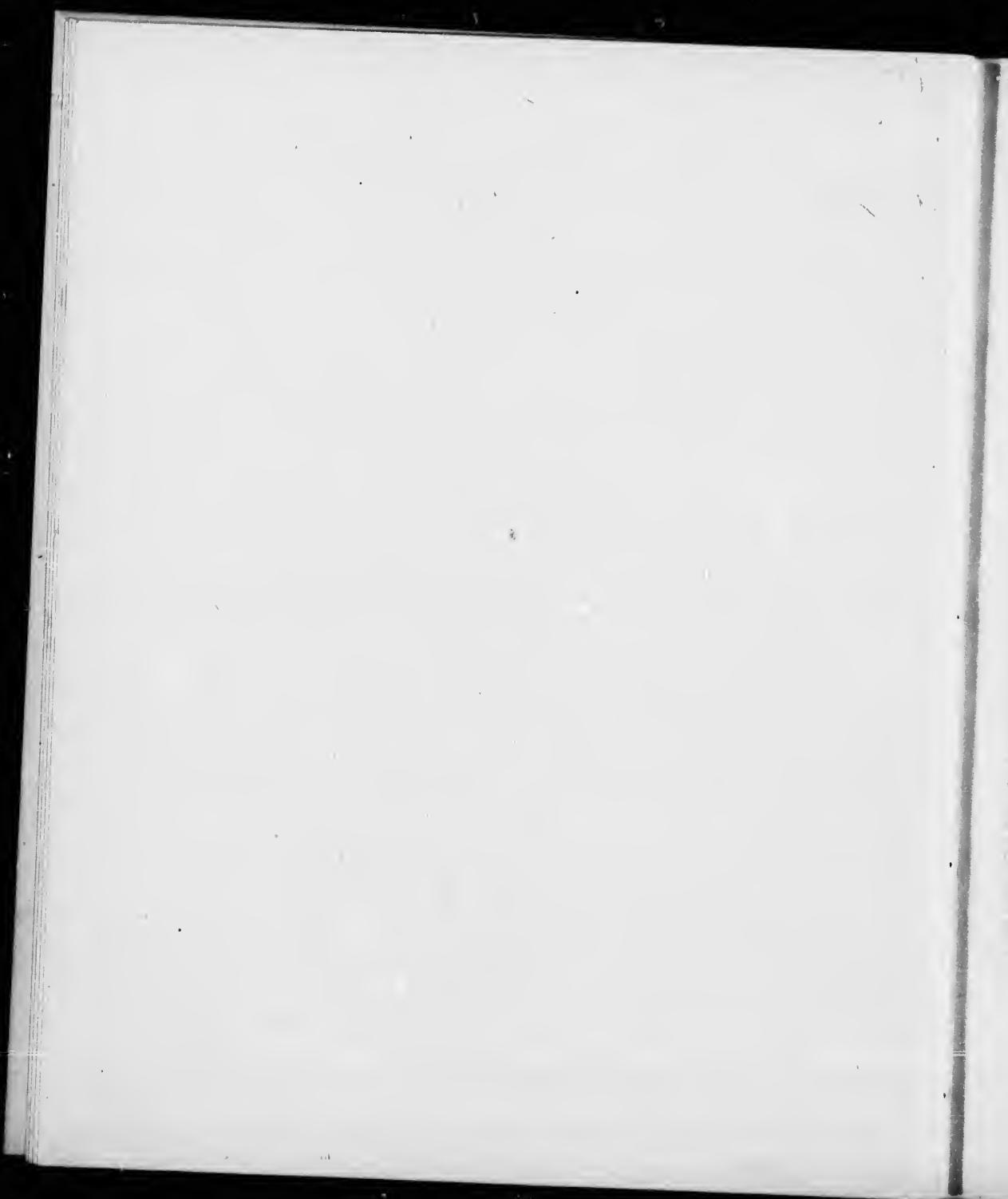




With a giant sweep from the height I leap,  
Like a god I wield my thunder,  
And the quivering rock beneath the shock  
Trembles and shinks in wonder;  
I gather the waves in a mad embrace  
As gaily they leap in their onward race,  
And laugh, as I hurl them down to die,  
To hear the shriek of their agony;

3







On, ever on,  
Like a miniature world to confusion hurl'd,  
Eddying, splashing, frantically dashing  
Down, ever down.  
In a hollow beneath, I have hidden death;  
He waits for the prey I bring him,  
With a last faint gasp from my watery clasp  
His human spoil I fling him.







There are rocks down there, cruel, sharp  
and bare,  
Like murderers laid in ambush,  
And a whirlpool that sucks the waves in flocks  
That shuddering down the chasm rush.  
There silence is crown'd in the depths pro-  
found  
By the dead with their sunken faces ;  
But my secrets I keep, a mystery deep,  
On my brow ye read no traces.



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Ere impotent man his race began,  
When his pride was a thing unknown,  
At Creation's word my song was heard,  
Through Chaos my path was hewn;  
My steps ye may trace on the granite face  
As backward my course I planned,  
But for ages alone on my forest throne  
I poured forth my song enchanted;

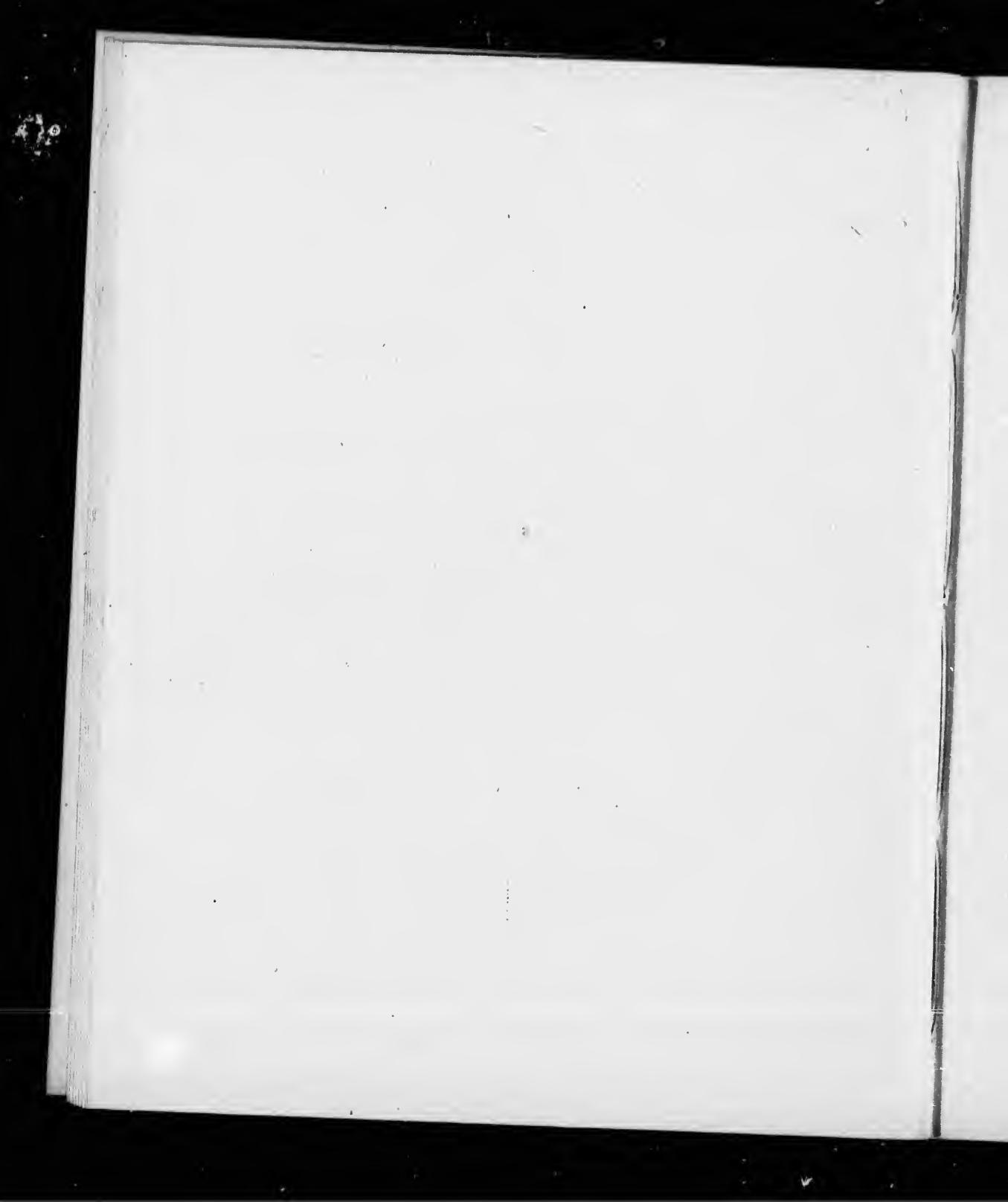






And solitude stood in the vastness rude,  
And silence took up the strain  
Till the echoes leaped from the rocks where  
they slept  
Shoulding it back again.  
And the centuries passed with their shadowy  
feet,  
But I mocked at them hast'ning to be forgot,  
And the young years paus'd for a friendly  
greet,  
But none could whisper when I was not;







And empires whose dread o'er the earth  
Was spread,

In their grandeur have come and gone,  
All things that vain man in his glory wrought  
Pass'd by like an idle and changing thought,  
But I still thundered on;

And the earth has been red 'neath the victor's  
Tread

As he pass'd on his course death-strewn,  
But he shrank in his pride, and forgotten died,  
While I still thundered on.







And springtime and summer, I love each  
comer,

Crowning my ancient brow,

While King Frost with a frown would bind  
me down

With his manacles wrought of snow;

But he shivered aghast, as he looked his last,

On the chains he would bind me under,

For he saw me but throw the foam from  
my brow

And laugh as I shook them asunder.

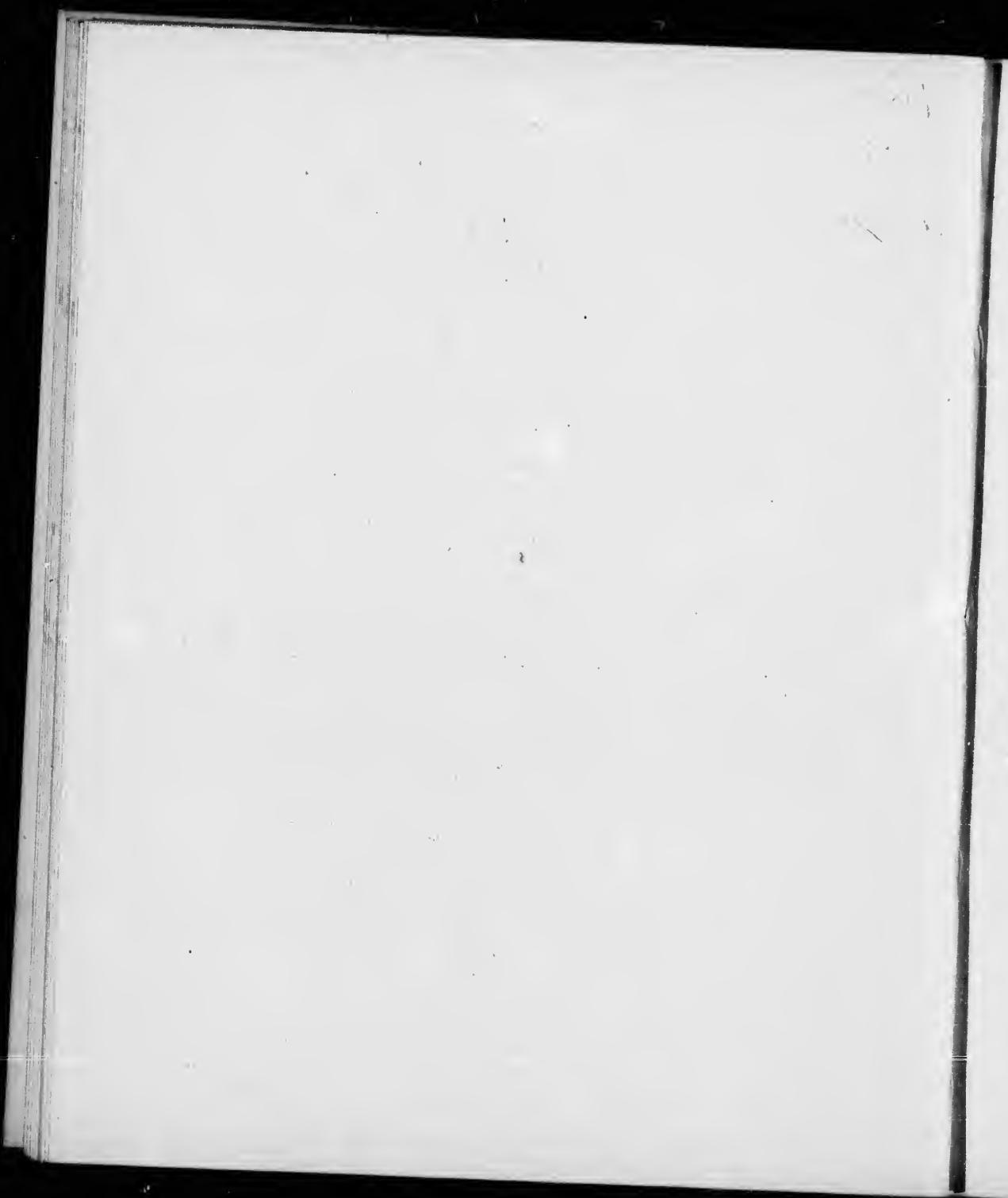






Ye have come, ye have come,  
Oh! man, in your conscious pride,  
For your brow is fraught with immortal  
thought,  
And the heights and depths to your gaze  
lay bare,  
A shadow of mystery gather'd there,  
Ye are lords of your kingdom wide;







But ye have no command that shall bid me  
stand,

Or turn at your sovereign will,

As I roll'd ere the earth had given you birth,  
I roll, unabated, still;





I gather ye up as a frail flower cup,  
Ye shriek, but I laugh like thunder,  
Oh! where are your power and your wis-  
dom's dower,  
Ye are nulfe in my caverns under;  
For the shadow of death is upon your breath,  
Your step like a dream is ended;  
But the ages rejoice while I lift my voice,  
And my song with Time's is blended.

